

Stop the Snakehead Fishing Derby will raise awareness and reduce the negative impact of snakeheads in our ecosystems. Snakeheads have spread beyond the Potomac River and throughout many tidal rivers in the Chesapeake Bay. In 2015 the species was found reproducing in the C&O Canal.

## Purposes of Fishing Derby

- 1. Raise awareness about snakeheads and other invasive species.
- 2. Raise awareness about fish that live in the C&O canal and that could be negatively impacted by snakeheads.
- 3. Remove any snakeheads that are caught, thus reducing potential impacts to C&O canal fish.

## Rules of Fishing Derby

Meet at Pennyfield Lock at on May 21st at 9:00 am. Check-in at the staging area.

Between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm, anglers can fish anywhere between Pennyfield to Violettes Lock (toward the inside of the floating boundary markers). When a fish is caught, the angler should flag down one of the staff in fluorescent vests. The staff member will measure the fish, record its species, take your name, and send the information to the staging area. Anglers are encouraged to release the fish. But if an angler catches a snakehead, **then the snakehead should not be released alive**. Instead, the staff will take the snakehead to the staging area. Staff can also dispose of the snakehead properly, if desired. The angler is then welcome to take the fish home with them to eat. Otherwise, snakeheads will be taken by biologists to learn more about what snakeheads are eating in the C&O Canal.













